

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

With respect to the Examiner's rejections to the claims, the Applicant hereby cancels claims 1-16 and 20-21 and adds new claims 22-35. The Applicant respectfully asserts that there has been no new matter added due to these amendments and that support for these amendments can be found within the Applicants specification. Accordingly, please amend the claims as follows:

1 – 16. Cancelled

20 – 21. Cancelled

22. (New) A thermoplastic pallet comprising:

an upper frame member, for supporting a deck upon which goods may be placed for transport;

a plurality of foot members projecting downwardly from the bottom side of said upper frame member;

a lower frame member, attached to the lower ends of said foot members; and

a deck, fastened to said upper frame member, wherein said deck comprises

a thermoplastic upper half sheet;

a thermoplastic lower half sheet, attached to said upper half sheet at a multiplicity of points and the periphery thereof, wherein said upper and lower half sheets are shaped to provide enclosed spaces therebetween; and

a support material having a density lower than the density of either said first or second sheet, wherein said support material is disposed in said enclosed spaces between said upper half sheet and said lower half sheet, to provide structural support to said deck.

23. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said support material is a polymer foam having a density less than about 50 pounds per cubic foot.

24. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said support material is a polymer foam having a density in the range of about 4 to about 10 pounds per cubic foot.

25. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said upper half sheet and said lower half sheet is constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyethylene and any combinations thereof.

26. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said upper frame member comprises an upward facing cavity, wherein when said deck is fastened to said upper frame member said deck closes off said cavity.

27. (New) The pallet of claim 26, wherein said upward facing cavity at least partially circumscribes the periphery of said upper frame member.

28. (New) The pallet of claim 26, wherein said upward facing cavity contains said support material to provide structural support to said upper frame member.

29. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said upper frame member comprises a cavity filled with said support material, wherein when said deck is fastened to said upper frame member a portion of said deck lies vertically above said cavity.

30. (New) The pallet of claim 29, wherein said cavity circumscribes at least a portion of the periphery of said upper frame member.

31. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said deck is attached to said upper frame member by means of a weld or adhesive bond.

32. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein each of said plurality of foot members is filled with said support material to provide structural support to said foot members.

33. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein said each of said plurality of foot members is a separately formed tubular element and is mechanically interlocked with said upper frame member and said lower frame member.

34. (New) The pallet of claim 33, wherein each of said plurality of foot members is mechanically interlocked with said upper frame member and said lower frame member by a plurality of teeth.

35. (New) The pallet of claim 22, wherein each of said upper half sheet and said lower half sheet have frusto-conical projections which mate with each other at said multiplicity of points.